

2006-Feb-28 03:18 PM 3M

5129842020

2/14

RECEIVED  
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

FEB 28 2006

RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE  
EXAMINING GROUP: 2833

32692

Customer Number

Patent  
Case No.: 59419US002

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named Inventor: SCHERER, RICHARD J.

Application No.: 10/788684

Group Art Unit: 2833

Filed: February 27, 2004

Examiner: Chung Trans, Xuong My

Title: CONNECTOR APPARATUS

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.116Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION (37 CFR § 1.8(a))

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being:

- ☐ deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.
- ☒ transmitted by facsimile on the date shown below to the United States Patent and Trademark Office at 571-273-8300.

2-28-06  
DateMelanie Gover  
Signed by: Melanie O. Gover

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the outstanding Final Office Action, dated December 29, 2005, in the above-identified application.

This Amendment is believed to be timely submitted. It is believed that no fee is due; however, in the event a fee is required, please charge the fee to Deposit Account No. 13-3723.